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An article in Bakinskiy Rabochiy of 2 July 1953 contained information bearing on the effect of production failures in the Azneftemash Trust on the progress of drilling dual-shaft, directional oil wells in the Stalinneft' Trust.

The article, by Aga Neymatulla, director of the Offshore Drilling Office of the Stalinneft' Trust, reported that three dual-shaft drilling sites had been established at oil fields of Stalinneft' Trust during 1953. However, the paper continued, the expansion of the scale of dual-shaft drilling was hindered owing to the fact that drilling brigades did not have the necessary equipment for drilling oil wells using the new technology. In particular, the paper stated, there was a shortage of traversing crown blocks and, in spite of repeated demands, Azneftemash Trust had not released this equipment in sufficient quantity.

In 1952, the paper noted, the Bakinskiy Rabochiy Machine Building Plant delivered only 6 of 25 crown blocks called for by the plan. Moreover, drillers of Azneft' Association received only two of these six crown blocks. During 1953, the Bakinskiy Rabochiy Plant had delivered only two crown blocks.

The paper stated that the lack of crown blocks was the basic cause for the disruption of the schedule for construction of dual-shaft drilling derricks.(3)

Bakinskiy Rabochiy of 4 July 1953 reported that while oil well drillers were equipped with the most advanced technology, certain questions concerning supplying drilling brigades with the necessary tools and materials had not been solved. There was an especially acute shortage of good bits. While bits meeting the drillers' requirements had been designed, the production of them had been poorly organized, the paper stated.

It was further reported that while one of the plants in the city of Molotov produced high-quality bits, the Verkhne-Serginskiy and Kuybyshevskiy plants of Glavneftemash produced inferior bits. As a result, the paper said, drillers were trying to obtain products from the Molotov plant, rather than from plants of their own ministry.(4)

SOURCES

1. Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 28 Feb 53
2. Ibid., 14 May 53
3. Ibid., 2 Jul 53
4. Ibid., 4 Jul 53

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